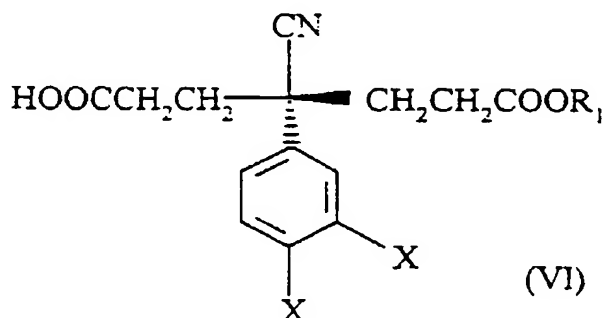


In the Claims:

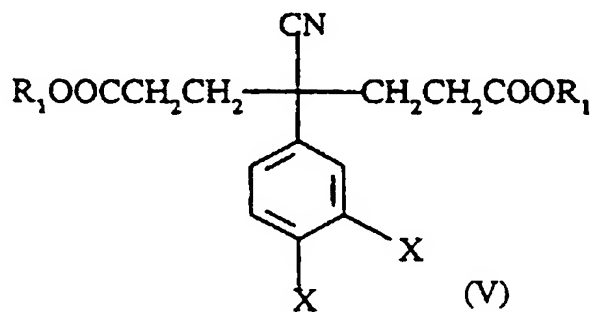
Please cancel claims 1-13, 18-20, and 22-24, amend claims 14-17 and 21, and add new claims 25-28 as follows before calculating the filing fee for the above-identified application.

Claims 1-13. (Cancelled)

Claim 14. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process for the preparation of a compound of formula:



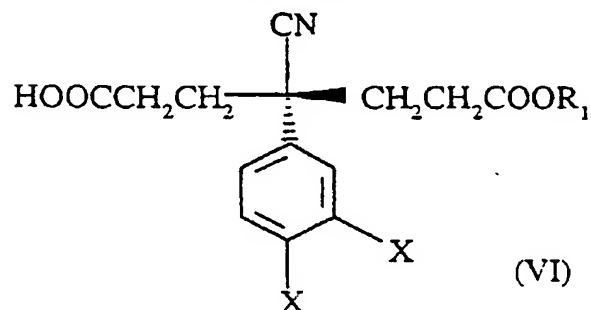
in which R₁ ~~represents a linear C₁-C₄- alkyl~~ and X ~~are as defined for (I) in Claim 1,~~
~~characterized in that it consists in~~ represents a halogen which comprises treating, with an enzyme, a compound of formula:



Claim 15. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein use is made of an enzyme chosen from lipases, esterases and proteases.

Claim 16. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to Claim 15, ~~characterized in that to~~ wherein use is made of *Candida cylindracea* or *Candida rugosa* lipase or esterase, separately or as a mixture.

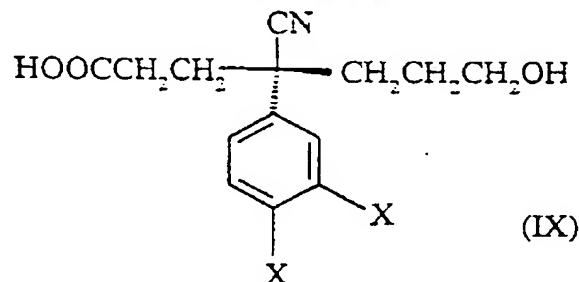
Claim 17. (Currently amended) ~~Compound A~~ a compound of formula:



in which R_1 and X are as defined for (I) in Claim 1 wherein X represents a halogen, and R_1 represents a linear C_1 - C_4 -alkyl.

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled)

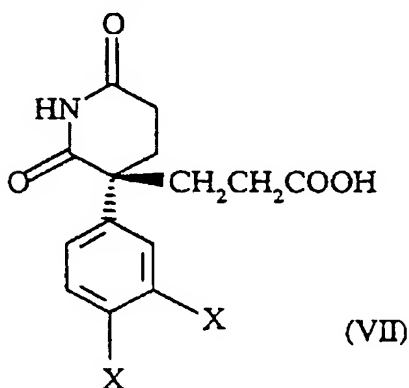
Claim 21. (Currently amended) ~~Compound A~~ a compound of formula:



in which X represents a halogen.

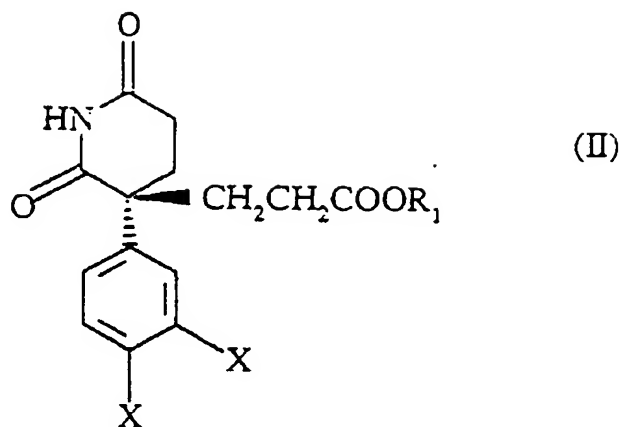
Claims 22-24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (VII):



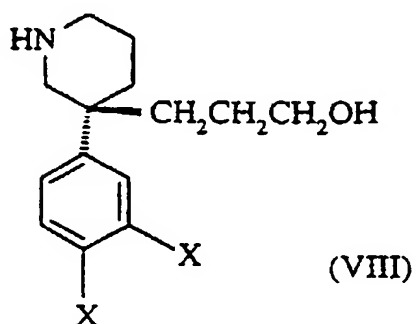
wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises hydrolyzing a compound of S configuration

corresponding to the formula

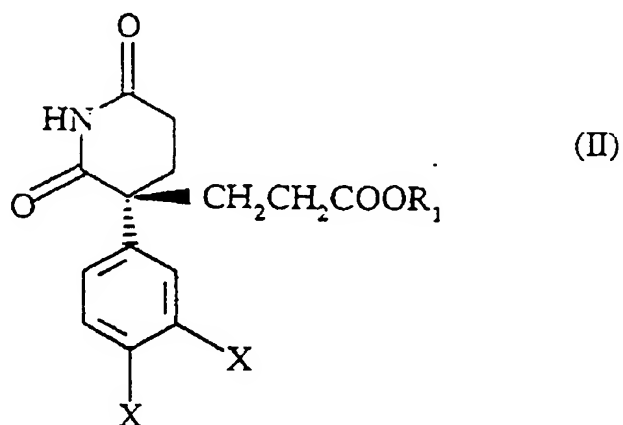


in which X represents a halogen and R₁ represents a linear C₁-C₄ alkyl.

Claim 26. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (VIII):

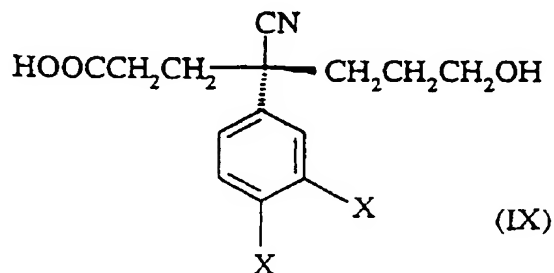


wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises reducing a compound of S configuration corresponding to the formula



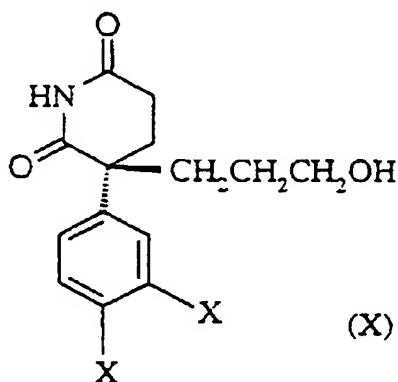
in which X represents a halogen and R₁ represents a linear C₁-C₄ alkyl in the presence of a reducing agent.

Claim 27. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (IX):



wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises reducing a compound according to Claim 17 in the presence of an alkaline hydride.

Claim 28. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (X):



wherein X represents a halogen, which comprises cyclizing a compound according to Claim 21.